CLAIMS

1. A device for measuring a hard granular object, comprising:

a measuring vessel having a first face, a second face parallel to the first face, and a space formed between the first and second faces for receiving hard granular object supplied from the first face side;

a holder located on the side of the first face, having a through hole communicable with the space, and slidable along the first face;

a shutter located on the side of the second face, having a through hole communicable with the space, and movable parallel to the second face; and

a pressing means for pressing the holder toward the measuring vessel.

2. The device for measuring a hard granular object of Claim 1, wherein there is kept a designated gap between the second face and the shutter.

3. The device for measuring a hard granular object of Claim 1 or 2, wherein the holder is pressed toward the measuring vessel with a force smaller than that required to crush the hard granular object.

4. The device for measuring a hard granular object of any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein a part of the first face which slides on the holder is made of an abrasion resistant material.

5. The device for measuring a hard granular object of any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein a part of the holder which slides on the measuring vessel is made of an acetal resin or polyether-ether-ketone.

6. The device for measuring a hard granular object of any one of Claims 1 to 5, wherein a part of the second face facing the shutter is made of an abrasion resistant material.

7. The device for measuring a hard granular object of any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein the space of the measuring vessel for receiving the hard granular object has an opening with its unchamfered edge in the first face.

8. The device for measuring a hard granular object of any one of Claims 1 to 7, wherein the space of the measuring vessel for receiving the hard granular object has an opening with its unchamfered edge in the second face.

9. A method for measuring a hard granular object comprising the steps of:

charging the space of the measuring vessel with a hard granular object to be measured from a holder of the measuring vessel according to any one of Claims 1 to 8;

closing the openings of the space, in the first and second faces of the measuring vessel, filled with the hard granular object; and

discharging the hard granular object from the space of the measuring vessel.